

- Good Morning, I'm Michael Duarte with The American Lung Association. The American Lung Association greatly appreciates the efforts made by the board and the San Joaquin Valley Air District to improve the plan and bring it to this point.
- Our colleagues in the Central Valley Air Quality Coalition are also to be applauded for dedication to ensuring clean, healthy air for all Valley residents is the focus and outcome of this process.
- We appreciate that the plan relies heavily on regulatory measures - both existing and those coming forward. We look forward to working closely with you and our colleagues to ensure the plan maintains the right direction and momentum to achieve the goals.
- There are gaps and an area of concern around the reliance on incentive funding for a large portion of the plan. As we saw in the budget proposed by Governor Newsom in early January – resources for fleet turnover and AB 617 implementation are slated for reductions when we know we need more.
- At the CARB hearing on increased air quality monitoring in December, my colleague (Will Barrett) noted that the Lung Association would be vocal about the need for adequate funding for implementing local air pollution control programs.
- The budget proposal creates the need to emphasize this as a priority for the Lung Association again.
- We will continue to push for resources needed to address our significant air pollution needs.
- We will also continue to advocate for strong oversight of this plan.
- As laid out in the CVAQ letter, we recommend ongoing discussion of progress on the plan as a way to ensure we remain on track, and continue to evaluate potential shortcomings – especially on the incentive funding side.
- This is a great step forward and I think we all recognize the hard work that lies ahead to achieve healthy air for Valley residents.
- In closing, the Lung Association appreciates the work of this board, the Valley Air District and everyone who is here advocating for clean air. This will take a collective effort and we look forward to working with you all.